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The Parthenon, March 27, 2018

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THE PARTHENON

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2018 | VOL. 122 NO. 43 | MARSHALL UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER | marshallparthenon.com | SINGLE COPY FREE

Americans across the country march for their lives

By **SADIE HELMICK**
LIFE! EDITOR

“To the leaders, skeptics and cynics who told us to sit down and stay silent, wait your turn. Welcome to the revolution,” Cameron Kasky, a survivor from Parkland, Florida proclaimed to an estimated crowd of 800,000 people on Saturday’s March For Our Lives rally in Washington, D.C.

“The people in this country now see past the lies. We have seen this narrative before. For the first time the corrupt aren’t controlling our story- we are. The corrupt aren’t manipulating the facts. We know the truth,” said Kasky. “Shooting after shooting, the American people now see one thing they all have in common: the weapons.”

Saturday’s march rallied the people to demand United States politicians to create legislation that bans the sale of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and create universal background checks and was organized by student survivors of the February 14 massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida that killed 15 students and two teachers.

“We must stand beside those we lost and fix the world that betrayed them. This just doesn’t happen in schools. Americans are being attacked in churches, nightclubs, movie theaters and on the streets, by we, the people, can fix this,” said Kasky. “For the first time in a long while, I look forward 10 years and I feel hope. I see light.”

Although this march was led by students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, students who have been victims of various forms of gun violence across the country told their stories.

Zion Kelly, a student at Thurgood Marshall Academy in Washington D.C., spoke about the shooting of his twin brother, Zaire Kelly, on September 20, 2017 during his walk home from an after-school program.

“He was a person. A leader. An inspirer. Not just another statistic,” said Kelly.

To honor Zaire Kelly, his family has proposed the Zaire Kelly Public Safety Zone Amendment Act of 2018. This amendment will create safe passage zones, to and from schools and activities.

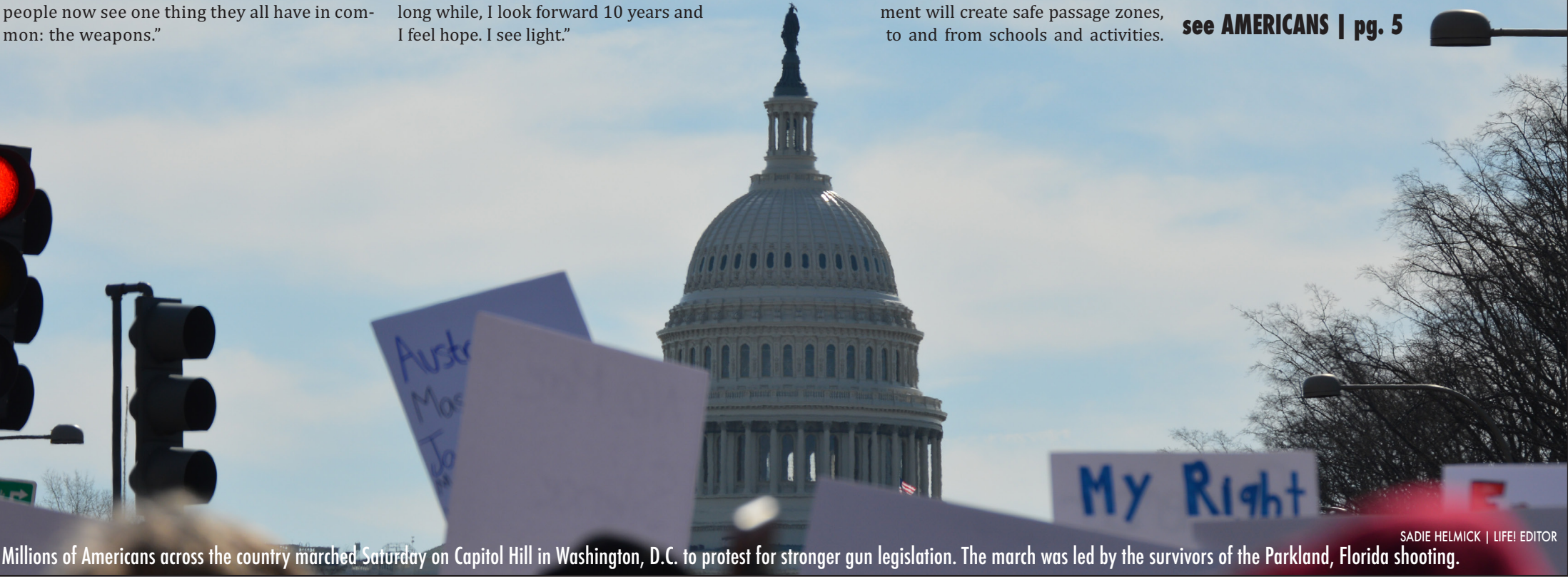
The amendment expands the definition of a student to include people enrolled in public and private daycares, elementary, secondary, vocational schools, colleges, junior colleges and universities. This amendment would also make recreation centers a gun-free zone.

Kelly walked off the stage with the message, “My name is Zion Kelly and, like you, I have had enough.”

Marjory Stoneman Douglas students were not afraid to address their privilege.

“Parkland is the heart of this movement but just as a heart needs blood to pump, my hometown needs the alliance of other communities to properly spread this message. We openly

see **AMERICANS** | pg. 5



Millions of Americans across the country marched Saturday on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. to protest for stronger gun legislation. The march was led by the survivors of the Parkland, Florida shooting.

SADIE HELMICK | LIFE! EDITOR

Activists take to streets at March for Our Lives in Huntington



HANNAH PENNINGTON | THE PARTHENON



HANNAH PENNINGTON | THE PARTHENON

Protesters take to the streets of Huntington to join in the nationwide March for Our Lives protests.

By **HANNA PENNINGTON**
THE PARTHENON

Activists of all ages charged proudly through Huntington Saturday morning as part of the March for Our Lives movement which took place all across the country.

Participants marched in honor of the 17 victims killed in the Parkland shooting last month and to fight for more comprehensive gun control laws throughout the country in attempt to prevent another mass shooting from occurring.

John Prentice, a participant in the March for Our Lives event, said protests and rallies like these are the only way to create real change on pressing issues.

“No one is going to listen and no action is going to happen unless you speak up,” Prentice said. “We are one of the only developed countries where we don’t have comprehensive gun control and where this is still a major issue.”

Prentice said the answer to gun violence is very clear in the form of gun control reform.

“If you just look at the numbers, comprehensive gun control equals less death,” Prentice said.

Attendee Amanda Day-Brown said she has family who is school faculty and a nephew who is 10 years old, which makes the issue of gun control extremely important to her personally.

“I’m an older millennial, and I remember Columbine, watching that on television, and over the years it’s continually gotten

worse,” Day-Brown said. “It’s to the point where it’s climaxed, and we’re to the point where we’ve got to have some action.”

Rileigh Smirl, student organizer of the Huntington-based march, said growing up in today’s society means knowing the fear that accompanies walking into school, but said it doesn’t have to be this way.

“Here we are, 19 years since Columbine, six years since Sandy Hook, less than a year since the deadliest mass shooting in United States history in Las Vegas, and another 17 people have died at the hands of gun violence in our country,” Smirl said. “Some of these people were teenagers just like me; they woke up on that Valentine’s Day and probably had the same thoughts I do in the mornings before school, wishing for more sleep and already counting down the minutes until they get to come back home. Yet 14 students and three teachers did not get to come back home that day.”

Smirl said she hopes to reach teenagers and adults who can vote in

GREEN MACHINE



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the next election in order for a change in policy to be put into place.

“I want to show our lawmakers that there are hundreds and thousands of us across this nation begging for change, saying that enough is enough and that we will do whatever it takes to ensure that the next generation of teenagers will not have to put their lives on the line when they walk into school every day in order for something to change,” Smirl said. “For centuries we have built a crucial part of our nation’s foundation on that 2nd Amendment in the Constitution, yet I believe that our founding fathers had a very different idea in mind when they wrote that Americans have the right to a well-regulated militia.”

Smirl said over the years the gun-culture in America has become increasingly frightening.

“Now instead of practicing tornado drills, we prepare for an active shooter; tornados are unstoppable natural disasters that we have to brace for and do what we can to keep ourselves safe and minimize the damage, because it is something we cannot prevent,” Smirl said. “Shootings are not natural disasters. They are not inevitable and they are preventable.”

Smirl and the March for Our Lives movement called for a ban on semi-automatic weapons in the United States.

“I am not here to ask for a ban on all guns across this nation,” Smirl said. “What I want to know is the purpose of semi-automatic

see **ACTIVISTS** | pg. 5

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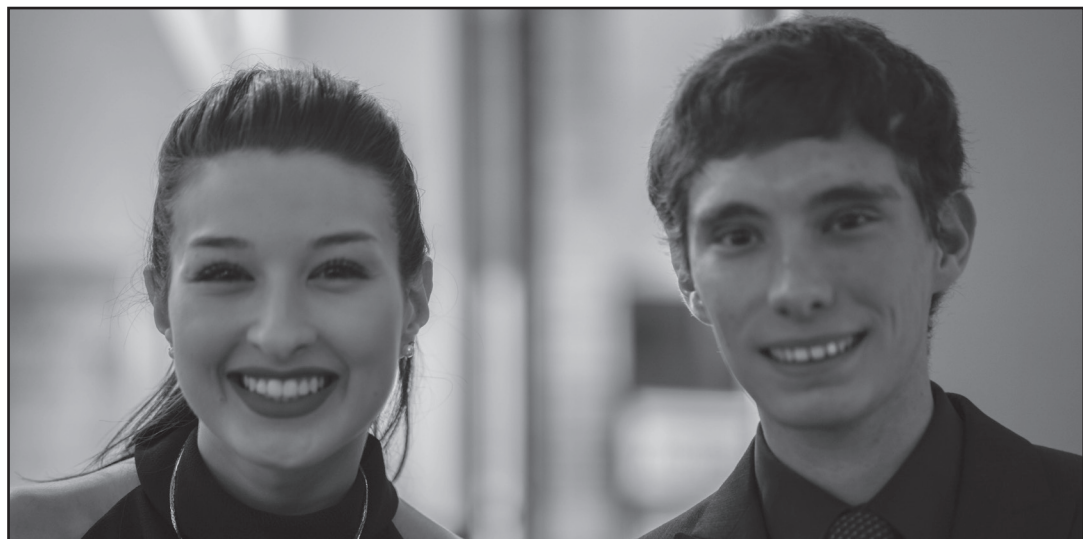
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Meet the new SGA president and VP



LILY DYER | THE PARTHENON
President-elect Hunter Barclay and Vice President-elect Hannah Petracca won the SGA election by a total of five votes and plan to jump right into working toward fulfilling the promises they made during campaigning.

By KYRA BISCARNER
THE PARTHENON

Coming back from spring break can mean the start of the end of the year, but for the newly elected Barclay-Petracca administration it is just the beginning.

After winning by five votes in the Student Government Association Election, President-Elect Hunter Barclay said when he heard his name announced he felt a mix of emotions.

"I was nervous but I was also shocked that we had received as many votes as we did get, and then when they said our names, it was disbelief, excitement, and it was just an awesome

moment," Barclay said.

His running mate and vice president-elect, Hannah Petracca, shared his feelings of disbelief but said she was proud to know every vote mattered.

"To know we can say to people, your vote mattered, your vote changed the selection, it was special to know that your voice here on campus matters and we made that very clear," Petracca said.

Although they were in disbelief, both Barclay and Petracca said they are ready to get to work.

"I think we'll definitely celebrate with our families and then we'll get to work," Petracca said. "We have a big platform with really big ideas and those aren't going to happen overnight."

Barclay said his first task is to get started on working on the prices of textbooks.

"We've talked to a textbook company who wants to pioneer a program here at Marshall to try to make textbooks more affordable, and that's something we definitely want to work with right now, because we had a company that saw our platform and said that they want to work with Marshall, so if we have this opportunity we would be crazy to let it pass us by," Barclay said.

Barclay and Petracca will officially be inducted on April 22.

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Fraternity and Sorority Life social moratorium lifted



LILY DYER | THE PARTHENON
Unsafe consumption of alcohol during a Greek event led to the moratorium affecting all Greek organizations.

By SARAH INGRAM
THE PARTHENON

Fraternity and Sorority Life is no longer under a social moratorium after Nick Wright, the director of FSL, and the Greek council decided to have each chapter participate in a Green Dot Bystander Intervention training offered by the Women's Center on Marshall University's campus.

After receiving a video where improper consumption of alcohol was happening at a Greek event, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life administrators decided to place the Greek community on a social moratorium.

The moratorium has since been lifted, but the community is expected to attend a training to better understand how to help in situations where potentially poor decisions are being made while consuming alcohol.

Claire Snyder, the program coordinator for the Women's Center, talked about how Green Dot's name comes from looking at campus maps that may have different red dots placed on them to display where a sexual assault or physical assault has occurred and wanting to avoid adding more red dots.

"Green Dot's goal is for every time there is a potential incident of violence and a bystander steps in and intervenes in some way to prevent that from happening, it would turn a red dot into a green dot because nothing bad happened there," Snyder said.

Each fraternity and sorority is now required to have at least 80 percent of its members

attend a Bystander Intervention training. This course addresses different ways to safely consume alcohol, the definition of consent and different ways to assist people who may need help during events where alcohol may be involved.

The first course offered took place March 13, where those who organized the event had to close the doors because too many people were trying to attend. The women in charge said they prefer to have roughly 50 attendees per course in order to answer any questions people may have. The first course consisted of roughly 130 students.

Wright said that each fraternity and sorority has until the end of the semester to meet the 80 percent quota. The Greek organizations which fail to meet the standards by the end of the year will be placed back on social moratorium until they can meet the standards in the fall.

James Prentice, the president of Alpha Sigma Phi, pitched the idea of the bystander intervention course to the Greek council, because he said he thought it was a good idea for not just Greek Life but everyone to understand how to intervene in potentially questionable situations. He said he believes the training could benefit the community as a whole.

"This is a proactive step to better our community," Prentice said. "It's an eye-opening experience that can teach people how to pick up on little things that can keep everyone safe."

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First director of Greek Life has big plans for the organization



SARAH INGRAM | THE PARTHENON
Nick Wright, who has a background in public health and Greek Life, has high hopes for MU Greek Life.

By SARAH INGRAM
THE PARTHENON

Nick Wright is one of the many new faculty members at Marshall University this semester as the first official director of Fraternity and Sorority Life. With a background in both public health and Greek Life, the new director said he has high hopes for the Greek community here at Marshall.

"I want to help guide the students to be the best Greek community they can be," Wright said. "The best Greek community in my opinion is one where everyone is included, and everyone feels like they matter."

Wright was born and raised in Horseshoe, Mississippi, which he describes as a small town in the middle of nowhere. He was raised by a single mom and was always taught to be true to himself.

Wright is a graduate from Mississippi University for Women with a master's degree in public health. He continued his education in Indiana to get his graduate degree.

After graduation, he started working at Eastern Illinois University and obtained a position working with the school's Greek community. His job at the school was to help coordinate events between different Greek organizations as well as make sure everything was running smoothly.

Wright said he spent a lot of time looking at different job openings that he is interested in filling, checking the requirements each position asked for and would apply if he was interested. If there was a position he was interested in but did not qualify for, he would often ask his boss and mentor what they could do so he could acquire the necessary skills.

The now director of Fraternity and Sorority Life said he actually applied for the job as a fluke. Wright said he saw the opening for a director here at Marshall and told his friends about it. While Wright said he did not expect to get accepted, he had submitted his application and then was looking for apartments all within three weeks.

Wright said he loves working with the Greek community because he himself comes from a Greek background. The now director became a member of Phi Beta Sigma when he was in college. Wright said he originally had no intention on joining any fraternity. However, after seeing the organization do different events around campus, he decided that maybe Greek Life was for him.

Wright still says he is not sure what it was that made him decide to join the fraternity, but he does know why he stayed—his fraternity's cohesive effort to do well in school and the community had a positive impact on him.

"When it came down to academics," Wright said, "everyone was very intelligent. We pushed each other to work hard and succeeded together."

Wright said he believes the position is great for him because he is able to relate to the students who are active members. He said he is capable of understanding different Greek organizations' points of view because he grew up with similar situations.

Wright has already been working with the Greek Council as well as different task forces to ensure the safety of Marshall students when participating in Greek Life events.

Wright said he wants to work toward enhancing the relationships between students and university support. He said he hopes to do this by letting the students help create and build the community primarily by themselves.

Wright said he believes being the first official director of Fraternity and Sorority Life allows him to help the students shape the community they hope to build rather than coming into a position where rules and regulations have already been established.

Wright reflected on what he describes as a great experience in college with his own Greek community, and he said he believes each person deserves to have that experience, and he thinks Marshall is a great place to have all of the experiences that come with Greek Life.

"I don't want to give people my experience," Wright said. "I want them to have the experience they want to have. Being here at Marshall allows me to be the catalyst, or middleman, for the students."

Wright said that he hopes Marshall can become one of the nation's best Greek communities. He said he is very hopeful that the community will only get better as time goes on due to working together on different communication skills and holding each other accountable for different actions.

The director said he hopes to maybe one day be the president of a university, as well as charter a school for underprivileged children in Mississippi. He also said he would like to start a family one day.

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Society for Advancement of Management places 2nd at business conference in D.C.

By SYDNEY SHELTON
FOR THE PARTHENON

Marshall University's Chapter of the Society for Advancement of Management, SAM, attended the International Business Conference in District of Columbia over spring break, where they placed second in the open division case study competition.

The case study competition is the equivalent to working a capstone presentation in a business policy course. The students are able to work toward determining a strategic vision and finding ways to better a company. They work to find ways to improve, sustain, turn around or correct the performance of a company.

Each team is judged on its recognition of the problems, finding alternatives, recommended action and how it responds to what the judges conclude.

Glen Midkiff, the director of Stakeholder Engagement said, "By placing as a winner

it speaks volumes of the quality business education that students are receiving at Marshall University."

The Society for Advancement of Management is an organization that works to give students the opportunity to further their knowledge in management skills and expertise through programs and services in the management field. It is a nonprofit organization that was established in 1912.

"Our SAM case competition team worked very hard and carefully prepared our analysis and recommendations," Midkiff said. "We are so thankful for the support of our SAM faculty advisor, Dr. Marc Sollosy, Dean Avi Mukherjee and the entire Lewis College of Business."

Dean Avi Mukherjee, the Dean of the Lewis College of Business is on the Board of Directors for SAM.

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SPORTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2018 | THE PARTHENON | MARSHALLPARTHENON.COM

Elmore declares for 2018 NBA Draft



RICHARD CRANK

Junior guard Jon Elmore makes a three-point attempt in Marshall's home game against FAU earlier in the season. Elmore made 98 of the 275 shots he attempted in the 2017 season.

STAFF REPORT THE PARTHENON

Marshall junior guard Jon Elmore declared for the 2018 NBA draft Monday, a week after the Herd lost to WVU in round two of the NCAA Tournament. According to herdzone.com, Elmore will not sign with an agent. This is the second year in a row that Elmore declared for the draft without an agent, as he withdrew his name in 2017.

"(Elmore's) game is kind of a cross between (Steve) Nash and (Steph) Curry," head coach Dan D'Antoni said in a release.

Elmore is the first Division I college basketball player in 30 years to surpass 800 points (816), 200 assists (244) and 200 rebounds (210) in a single season. Elmore set four single-season school records in points, assists, free-throws made (232) and free throws attempted (281).

In his Marshall career, Elmore has 1,888 total points and 596 assists. The Charleston, West Virginia native averaged 22.7 points, 6.8 assists and 5.8 rebounds per game, a stat line that only Basketball Hall of Fame member Penny Hardaway accomplished in the last 25 years (22 points, six assists, five rebounds per game).

Holliday addresses media before first spring practice



LUKE CREASY | THE PARTHENON

By LUKE CREASY THE PARTHENON

Marshall University football is readying for the upcoming season, as the spring practice season is scheduled to begin this week. Marshall is coming off an 8-win season, including a New Mexico Bowl victory, after finishing the previous year with three wins. The program returns many players from last year, but head coach Doc Holliday said last season is in the past, and the team cannot afford to focus on it.

"One thing we want to do as a coaching staff is not get complacent with any of these kids and make sure that we get better," Holliday said. "You don't stay the same; you get better or you get worse. It's important for this team, with all the experience coming back, to start over."

Marshall football prepares for spring: what Holliday said is the most important part of a program's success or failure, and that the result of next season depends on translating performance from the weight room to the field.

"Any time you're a football coach and headed into spring ball, the most important part of your program is what happens in the off-season—the development that happens in the players from the time you finish the bowl game to the time spring ball starts," Holliday said. "I told the team when they got back last night that

it is so critical, all those numbers you have in the weight room right now, it's important to transition that to the football field and become good football players."

While the roster remains mostly intact, the new season begins with a slew of coaching changes. Tim Cramsey has been an offensive coordinator for each of the past nine seasons for five different programs and brings offensive knowledge to the table. He replaces former Marshall offensive coordinator Bill Legg. Another notable change is line-backers coach Adam Fuller's promotion to defensive coordinator, replacing former defensive coordinator Chuck Heater. Holliday said special teams will be a combined effort.

"I'm excited about the two new coordinators—Tim Cramsey and, of course Adam Fuller has been with us a long time," Holliday said. "Todd Goebell will take a bigger role as a special teams coordinator as well as being co-offensive coordinator. He'll coordinate the special teams along with myself and some other coaches."

The spring season will consist of 15 practices. The first 14 are open to season-ticket holders and Big Green Scholarship Foundation members, and the final practice, the annual spring scrimmage, is open to the public.

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Herd softball loses series against FAU, remains third in conference standings

By COURTNEY ANDREWS THE PARTHENON

A strong series-opening game was hindered by consecutive losses over the weekend, as Marshall softball (14-16-1, 5-3-1 C-USA) dropped two of three games on the road at fellow Conference USA foe Florida Atlantic (19-16, 7-2 C-USA).

"We worked hard to battle back after falling behind early," head coach Jen Steele said. "It came down to who could execute more and, unfortunately, we didn't come out on the right side today."

In the first day of play, a Saturday doubleheader, the Herd and the Owls split the two games. Marshall took game one 4-0, and FAU won game two 10-3. Marshall freshman Aly Harrell hit a three-run home run to left field in game one to boost the Herd to victory, and in game two, Steele said her team gave FAU too many opportunities.

"We started out really sloppy, giving away outs and runs," Steele said.

The Owls jumped out to a 3-0 lead, but Marshall battled back to tie it 3-3 in the fifth. FAU then scored one run in the bottom of the fifth, then added six runs in the bottom of sixth.

"We clawed our way back and had a moment to bust the game open," Steele said. "FAU got the stop when they needed it. Momentum is a tough thing to give away. As soon as we gave it back to them, they exploded offensively."

In Sunday's rubber match, the Herd fell in extra innings when FAU drove in a walk-off run in the bottom of the ninth

to take game three 4-3.

"It was a very well-fought game," Steele said. "It's tough to win on the road, but we had a chance to pull ahead in the standings with a win today."

Marshall junior pitcher Abigail Tolbert got her second start of the series and went three innings with two earned runs on four hits. Sophomore Kailee Williamson closed out the game in the circle, as she went 5 1/3 innings, allowing two earned runs on six hits.

Going into extra innings, the game was tied 2-2. The Herd pulled ahead 3-2 with a run in the eighth. FAU, however, tied it in the bottom half of the inning, then ultimately won when junior infielder Samantha Lageyre drove in the walk off run in the bottom of the ninth.

The Herd now has a four-day break, and doesn't take the field again until its matchup against FIU Friday at Dot Hicks Field in Huntington.

"We'll get back home, recover, and get to work on preparing for FIU," Steele said.

"I think we really want to start gelling together, not that we haven't been, but really just play our best ball," Marshall senior Madi Marshall said.

FIU is 15-18 on the season and 2-4 in conference play, losing each of its first two C-USA series. The Panthers will play a midweek doubleheader at No. 6 Florida Wednesday prior to the three-game series against the Herd.

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ADAM GUE

Senior catcher Taylor McCord, sophomore pitcher Kailee Williamson and sophomore infielder Blakely Burch greet one another during pre-game introductions. Williamson would pitch 5 1/3 innings in Marshall's game three rubber match, while Birch and McCord combined for seven total hits throughout the three-game series.

Column: Herd hoops' dominance just beginning

By RICK FARLOW SPORTS EDITOR

As a journalist, I never like to give personal anecdotes in my stories. I pride myself in objectivity and hard news.

But, in the words of the esteemed Marshall professor Dan Hollis: there's always an exception.

Let's go back to 2014, when I was an 18-year-old (admittedly) cocky freshman at Marshall. I vehemently questioned the old school, t-shirt wearing man with a southern West Virginia drawl as he began his tenure as Herd hoops head coach. He didn't care what he said into a microphone (obviously, he still doesn't), who heard it, or how the media interpreted it. I said to myself: how can a man who wears a t-shirt under his sports coat while he coaches a Division I men's basketball team possibly achieve any level of success?

I will be the first to admit, I was dead wrong.

Four years later, I find myself in San Diego covering a D'Antoni-led team in its first NCAA Tournament appearance in 31 years. On top of that, and against all odds, the Herd won a game! 13-seeded Marshall decisively beat

see NCAA | pg. 5

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Editorial

Beware the ides of marching

Fredrick Douglas once said, “I prayed for freedom for 20 years, but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.”

Legislators and citizens in the United States are quick to offer “thoughts and prayers” when tragedy strikes, but thoughts and prayers without action are just empty words.

The Marjory Stoneman Douglas students are holding their legislators to their sometimes quick and thoughtless words by demanding action.

School shooting, after school shooting, the scenes of candle-lined streets and memorials in lockers of dead classmates haunt many, but after a few weeks, national media has moved on.

These students from Parkland have had enough. They have seen and lived the nightmare that is gun violence and they have started a revolution. They went straight from grief to action. They have done more than their lawmakers and they have influenced the American public to do and be better.

If legislators are so quick to pray, then why don't they take their words and do something?

According to the Center for Disease Control, every day an average of 96 Americans die from gun violence. Seven



children and teens are killed from gun violence on an average day.

With these terrifying statistics, why hasn't there been a change? Why are Americans so quick to pray, but so resistant to what they are praying for?

It is hypocritical for lawmakers to pray for peace and comfort and then not use their position to provide said peace and comfort and continue to accept bribes from the National Rifle Association.

It is scary to live in a country where the price tag of children's lives can be \$1.05. It is amazing that Florida Governor Marco Rubio can even sleep at night knowing that he could have changed things but neglected his people in exchange for over 3 million dollars.

So, what happens next? This generation is giving hope for the future of America. They know more about politics than many of their elders, but they are constantly told that they are too young to be educated.

As Marjory Stoneman Douglas student Cameron Kasky said, “To the leaders, skeptics and cynics who told us to sit down and stay silent, wait your turn. Welcome to the revolution.” These kids are praying with their legs.

LET ME BE FRANK: ON GROWING UP



By FRANKLIN NORTON
MANAGING EDITOR

I am writing this on my 21st birthday, a day that most consider one of the most significant age milestones. I spent the morning at the DMV, by myself, shuffling through my identification, bank statements and other legal documents. As I sat in the chair, waiting to hear my number called, I watched as a young guy sat with his mom, preparing to take his driving test. It struck me that this was me and my own mother not too many years ago, but it also feels like an entire lifetime ago.

The past several years have been some of the most challenging

and joyful times of my life, as I have been thrust into adulthood, a world full of bills and job interviews and making my own doctor's appointments.

Life moves fast. We have found ourselves immersed in a narrative of constant development and change, and it is when we embrace this change that we find so much purpose.

One of my favorite writers, Donald Miller, said this: “I feel written. My skin feels written, and my desires feel written. It feels literary sometimes, doesn't it, as if we're characters in books.”

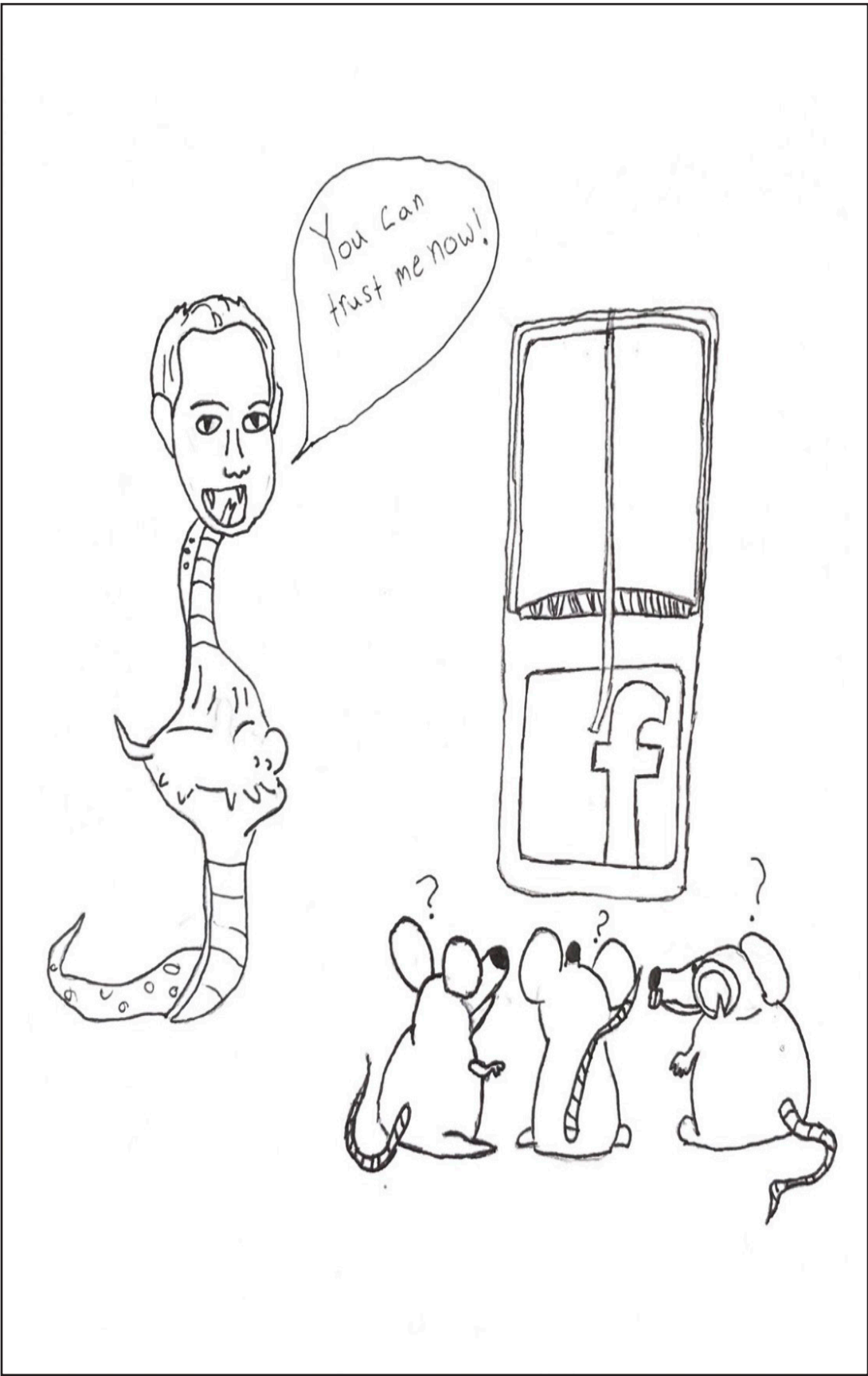
Every great story has one thing in common: conflict and struggle, leading to remarkable character

development. If we can see our lives as stories, as an epic poem where every tear and every laugh work to create a more dynamic character, we can find joy in every tragedy and meaning in the most mundane.

“How brightly a better story shines. How easily the world looks to it in wonder. How grateful we are to hear these stories, and how happy it makes us to repeat them,” Miller wrote.

Don't believe the lie that life is meaningless. Life doesn't stop, and neither should you. Let's live out good stories.

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SETH PAYNE | THE PARTHENON

THE PARTHENON

The Parthenon, Marshall University's student newspaper, is published by students Monday through Friday during the regular semester and Thursday during the summer. The editorial staff is responsible for news and editorial content.

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THE PARTHENON'S CORRECTIONS POLICY

"Factual errors appearing in The Parthenon should be reported to the editor immediately following publication. Corrections the editor deems necessary will be printed as soon as possible following the error."

THE FIRST AMENDMENT | The Constitution of the United States of America

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people to peaceably assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

ACTIVISTS cont. from 1

weapons being readily available to practically anyone who wants one.”

Smirl said lawful gun owners should not be opposed to keeping guns out of the hands of those who only have deadly intentions for purchasing them.

“If the guns used in all of our most recent and deadly shootings were legally obtained,

then the problem lies in the way our laws allow people to buy guns,” Smirl said. “My hope for the future is that one day I hope I can look at my children and feel safe sending them to school, knowing that changes have been made so their lives in school are safer than mine is as a high school student today.”

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RICHARD CRANK | THE PARTHENON

Ajdin Penava, also known as the “Bosnian Blocker”, stole headlines this year, as he led the nation in blocks for more than a majority of the season (from Dec. 16 until on).

NCAA cont. from 3

4-seeded Wichita State in the first round and forced its first matchup with WVU since the end of the Capital City Classic in 2015. Did the Herd beat WVU? No. But, WVU head coach Bob Huggins said it first: it doesn’t matter.

Now, before you chastise me for saying Huggins is right, I want you to think about something: did it really matter? Of course, the bragging rights Marshall would have gained from downing its in-state foe are insurmountable. On that same note, though, Marshall succeeded to the point in which it forced WVU into an NCAA Tournament matchup. A Capital City Classic in San Diego. A Capital City Classic that WVU didn’t want to play. Edgar Cayce could have given me a similar pre-season prediction and I wouldn’t have believed him. I mean, Marshall was picked to finish seventh in the C-USA preseason standings.

That’s how big of deal this is. So, before we criticize WVU, let’s praise the Herd. What an unbelievable run. I’ll give you some stats to support my argument.

In my unbiased opinion, Jon Elmore is, by far, the most versatile player in NCAA men’s basketball. The former rec league superstar, who allegedly scored over 100 points in an intramural game before he began his career at Marshall, shattered expectations on both sides of ball this season. Elmore is the first Division I college basketball player in 30 years to surpass 800 points (816), 200 assists (244) and 200 rebounds (210) in a single season. Elmore broke four Marshall single-season records with 816 points, 244 assists, 232 free-throws made and 281 free throws made. With an 83 percent free-throw percentage, Elmore has the second-highest percentage

on the team. The highest? C.J. Burks.

Three seasons into his Marshall career, C.J. Burks has made a name for himself. The junior guard started 35 games this season, averaging 36.5 minutes per game and 20.1 points per game. Burks scored 702 total points this season. He scored 96 of those points from the free-throw line, as he sported a team-leading .899 free-throw percentage (96-108). He also drained 86 total three’s and produced a .472 field goal percentage (260-551) throughout the season. Additionally, Burks tallied 144 total rebounds, ranking third-highest on the team behind Elmore and, of course, junior forward Ajdin Penava.

Ajdin Penava, also known as the “Bosnian Blocker”, stole headlines this year, as he led the nation in blocks for more than a majority of the season (from Dec. 16 until on). The junior forward out of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, blocked 134 shots in his 34 games of play. His total outnumbers the nation’s second-highest blocker—Texas’ Mohamed Bamba—by 23 (130). To supplement his stat line, Penava scored 531 total points with a team-leading field goal percentage of .562 (191-340). Penava also led the team with 288 rebounds over the season. He is set to return for his senior season.

As cliché as it sounds, the numbers don’t lie. Marshall basketball shattered expectations this season. As Marshall looks to return its top-nine scorers season, you can bet WKU head coach Rick Stansbury is shaking in his shoes. And for good reason. Marshall is, and will be, for real. As I continue with my theme of biased writing, I leave you with this: We are...Marshall!

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SADIE HELMICK | LIFE! EDITOR

AMERICANS cont. from 1

recognize that we are privileged individuals that and would not have us received as much attention if we weren’t for the affluence of our city,” said Marjory Stoneman Douglas student Jaclyn Corbin.

“This issue is undoubtedly an epidemic that affects communities of all classes. An epidemic that the Center for Disease Control does not have the funds to research,” said Corbin. “This disease continues to spread even though we have discovered the cure but our government officials close their ears because it involves change. A change that does not align with their own agenda.”

David Hogg, Marjory Stoneman Douglas student, came onto the stage flashing an orange price tag reading “\$1.05.” This tag represents the 3,140,167 students enrolled in Florida schools, divided by Florida Governor Marco Rubio’s \$3,303,355 donation from the National Rifle Association (NRA), putting the price of student’s lives at \$1.05.

Naomi Wadler, an 11 year-old student from Alabama, representing Courtland Arrington, Hadiya Pendleton and Tiana Thompson, African-American girls who were victims of gun violence and whose stories did not make national media attention.

“I represent the African-American women

who are victims of gun violence, who are simply statistics instead of vibrant, beautiful girls full of potential,” said Wadler.

“For far too long these black girls and women have been just numbers. I’m here to say ‘never again’ for those girls too. I am here to say that everyone should value those girls too.” said Wadler.

Emma Gonzalez, the face of the movement and student of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, named the victims of the Parkland massacre and then stood silently in front of the world for 6 minutes and 20 seconds to symbolize how long it took Nicolas Cruz to murder 17 students and teachers of her high school.

“The march is not the climax of this movement, it is the beginning,” said Kasky. “Today is a bad day for tyranny and corruption.”

Over 800 marches took place in the United States and around the world. President Trump did not have a comment, but White House deputy press secretary Lindsay Walters said in a statement, “We applaud the many courageous young Americans exercising their First Amendment rights today. Keeping our children safe is a top priority of the President’s, which is why he urged Congress to pass the Fix NICS and STOP School Violence Acts, and signed them into law.”

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THE PARTHENON

podcast



Cynthia Nixon blasts Cuomo as 'bully,' 'wannabe Republican'



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Candidate for New York governor Cynthia Nixon responds to a question during a news conference Monday, in Albany, N.Y. The "Sex and the City" star and public education advocate is challenging Gov. Andrew Cuomo in September's Democratic primary.

By DAVID KLEPPER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actress Cynthia Nixon blasted Gov. Andrew Cuomo as a "bully" and a "wannabe Republican" Monday during her first visit to Albany since announcing her bid for New York governor.

The "Sex and the City" star and public education advocate criticized the two-term governor for not doing enough to ensure equal opportunities for poor and minority students. She also faulted Cuomo's effort to combat government corruption and said that while he touts himself as a progressive, he's governed as a member of what she called Albany's "old boys' club."

"We've all seen it: Andrew the bully. He bullies other elected officials. He bullies anyone who criticizes him," Nixon said. "It reminds me of the behavior we see from Donald Trump every day. My experience has taught me that there is only one way to deal with a bully. You have to stand up to him."

Nixon's from-the-left challenge to Cuomo in September's Democratic primary has upended what many had predicted to be an easy re-election for Cuomo, the son of the late Gov. Mario Cuomo. An ally of Cuomo's nemesis, Democratic New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio of New York City, Nixon's bid is highlighting Cuomo's often uneasy relationship with liberals in his own party.

A spokesman for Cuomo's re-election campaign did not immediately respond to messages seeking a response to Nixon's comments Monday. The campaign has previously pointed to Cuomo's achievements including legalizing gay marriage, tightening gun restrictions, raising the minimum wage, expanding public education funding and banning fracking.

Cuomo's allies came to his defense Monday, with labor leader Hector Figueroa saying the election will come down to who can best serve New Yorkers, "not who can seize the most headlines by waging personal attacks against another candidate."

Nixon, a 51-year-old New York native and Grammy, Emmy and Tony winner has never held public office, but as an activist she has lobbied extensively for better education funding and advocated for gay rights. She is the mother of three children and if elected would be the state's first openly gay governor.

She faces a difficult run. Cuomo has a \$30 million war chest and is considered a possible 2020 White House contender. A Siena College poll released last week showed Cuomo leading Nixon 66 percent to 19 percent among registered Democrats, and by a similar margin among self-identified liberals. Nixon did a little better among younger and upstate Democrats but didn't have more than a quarter of either group.

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Three women share their experiences from ROTC

By AMANDA LARCH
THE PARTHENON

An athlete, a mechanical engineer and a future surgeon. Three women of different ages and backgrounds decided to join Marshall University’s ROTC program, and each said that decision has changed her life for the better.

Of the 70 ROTC cadets at Marshall, less than 20 are women. Holly Ackerman, Heather Ellenberger and Kim Calhoun fulfill different roles in the program, but they said they all help to uplift and inspire one another and other female cadets as well.

“Just being a female is the hardest part of being in the ROTC because there’s not a lot of us,” Ackerman, junior healthcare management and criminal justice major, said. “We are outnumbered. The atmosphere is a little different when there’s a whole bunch of boys. So, we just stick the girls together and make sure no girl feels left out.”

Ackerman has been running for both Marshall’s cross country and track team for three years, and she said being in the ROTC has helped her with time management and keeps her physically fit.

“Sometimes they do clash,” Ackerman said. “In the fall semester, I was doing both ROTC training and practice, so I was practicing three to four hours a day just straight in the morning. So that was difficult, but ROTC has helped me with track, and track has helped me with ROTC. They do kind of go together and play off of each other.”

Ackerman said Women’s History Month is a time for her to reflect back on the ability to fulfill her dream of being in the military.

“Girls didn’t used to be allowed in the military, and now we are,” Ackerman said. “To be able to look back and see the people that allowed me to pursue my dreams of being in the military sounds pretty cool.”

After graduation, Ackerman said she hopes to go to law school and then join the JAG core, which deals with military law.

Ellenberger, junior mechanical engineering major, said after finishing her associate degree and working maintenance at a Honda plant, she wanted to explore something different and she came to Marshall and eventually joined the ROTC. She recently became a cadet, and technically she is a freshman in the program.

“I wanted to become more involved, and to become a part of something bigger than myself,” Ellenberger said. “I’m the military science one (first year) representative, so I’m a voice for the ones. I try and make sure everyone knows what’s going on, and I pass down information to help the others.”

Ellenberger has already been contracted into the Army, and when she graduates, she will be a mechanical engineer. She said Women’s History Month has a special meaning to her because of the field she chose.

“It’s an accomplishment for women,” Ellenberger said. “I was in a maintenance field which you don’t see a lot of women in. You get guys that say, ‘Hey you can’t do this because you’re a woman.’ I prove them wrong because I can do it.”

As the ROTC’s company first sergeant, Calhoun said she is in charge of beans, bullets and bodies.

“Essentially, I’m in charge of any kind of sustainment, making sure that we have accountability of everyone that’s supposed to be there,” Calhoun, senior clinical laboratory science major, said. “We know who’s supposed to be where, when, doing what, if we have the supplies that we need. Company Mom is what it is; it’s a fancy term for Mom. It’s a good time; I like it.”

When she decided to come to Marshall after getting her associate degree from Ohio University, Calhoun said she did not plan to become a contracted member of the ROTC, but she knew she wanted to be a surgeon in the Army.

“What I planned to do was come here and do my two years with ROTC in non-contract,” Calhoun said. “I was not going to stay in ROTC. Well, that didn’t happen. I wound up contracted with ROTC, so I made a commitment with the Army that I’m going to graduate and be a second lieutenant.”

Women’s History Month can mean something different to every woman, but Calhoun said it is important to reflect on women’s accomplishments.

“I think it’s all mostly about acknowledging that there are females in roles that were not typical in the past, and I think

it’s all about making our presence not necessarily known, but just showing we are capable and we can do things that maybe were either frowned upon or were not acceptable back in the day,” Calhoun said. “I think just going back and realizing how far women have come in society as far as whether it’s from voting to now females are going to Ranger School. Just kind of setting a new standard as far as what women are capable of doing.”

Calhoun said recognizing women in the military is important as well.

“I think there’s definitely some value in knowing how the Army itself has grown as far as having women in combat roles, which is something I would never be able to do,” Calhoun said. “Having women in leadership positions is important, too, because when you’re talking to people that have been in the older generation, they’re all male, naturally. There’s a few of them that are not entirely comfortable with the idea, and I can understand why there’s pros and cons to both sides there. When it comes to learning about where the Army has come from and where it’s going, I think there’s value in learning more about that.”

Amanda Larch can be contacted at larch15@marshall.edu.

Just being a female is the hardest part of being in the ROTC because there’s not a lot of us.

-Holly Ackerman



Black Sheep expands and moves downtown



By ZACHARY STEVENS
THE PARTHENON

A popular venue for open mic nights and comedy nights, Black Sheep Burrito and Brews has expanded in its new restaurant location in Pullman Square.

Black Sheep, which now has locations in both Huntington and Charleston, opened in Huntington in September 2011 and has been a popular destination for its unique menu options and open mic nights for both Marshall students and Huntington residents alike.

Patrick Guthrie is one of three owners and creators of the restaurant, along with Jessica Bright and Jeremiah Bowen.

“We want to be a part of the new atmosphere that is quickly building here in the downtown area,” Guthrie said. “The last several years have seen the city of Huntington thriving in the restaurant business here, and we love being able to be a part of that.”

Black Sheep opened in its Pullman Square location in December of 2017 and has quickly adjusted to the larger location and different logistics of the new location. The new building is located at 279 9th St., formerly the home of Uno’s restaurant. The new building is almost twice the size of its old location and adjusting to that was both fun and challenging Bright said.

“We got so much business in that small building,” Bright said. “We love being packed, but with our small kitchen there, we were worried about wait times and our kitchen staff. It became too stressful. Too much business should never be a bad thing.”

The larger building and more centralized downtown location has allowed Black Sheep to capitalize on the variety of events that happen at Pullman Square. Movie openings and music shows provide an increased amount of business for the restaurant.

The old building location across the street has remained under the ownership of the Black Sheep company. The owners said they hope to reopen the building eventually as essentially a smaller version of Black Sheep with a lighter menu. Construction is taking place now as the owners continue to manage their new location and their second location in Charleston.

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